

IHCDA

Homeless Youth Regional Program

*IT TAKES A VILLAGE: TEAMING UP WITH
MCKINNEY-VENTO LIAISONS TO SERVE YOUTH
AND FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN*



HOMELESS YOUTH REGIONAL PROGRAM

Why

- IDOE recognized over 16,380 public school students experiencing housing insecurity. (unsheltered, emergency shelters, hotels/motels, doubled up. (2018-19 data)

What

- According to the IHCD 2022 PIT count, Indiana has an estimated 6098 people experiencing homelessness; **697** were under the age of 18; **221** were between the ages of 18-24.
*these are those who were reported.

Who

- **Navigators will:** Strengthen communities by identifying youth who are living without fixed, adequate, regular housing, eliminate barriers to essential wrap around resources, and bridge systems that promote safe and sustainable housing for youth.

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION ACT

- ❑ 1987, Congress passes the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.
- ❑ 2015 McKinney-Vento act is amended as Every Student Succeeds Act.
- ❑ MV Act addresses the “challenges that homeless children and youths face in enrolling, attending and succeeding in school.”
- ❑ State Educational Agencies (SEAS) must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschool. They do this by designating a McKinney-Vento Liaison.
- ❑ These children must have “access to educational and related services to enable them to meet same state academic standards,” to include transportation to school of origin, override documentation requirements, free and reduced lunch, school supplies, uniforms.

HOMELESSNESS DEFINED AS: “LACKING A FIXED, REGULAR AND ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE” SECTION 725 (2) M-V ACT

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reason, living in a motels, hotels, trailer parks, campgrounds, emergency or transitional shelters or abandoned in hospitals
- Primary residence is a public or private place not designed as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations.
- Migratory children, who have moved from one school district or another in preceding 36 months to obtain temporary or seasonal employment in agricultural or fishing work.

WHAT IS THE HOMELESS YOUTH REGIONAL PROGRAM?

- ❑ A partnership between IHCD, IDOE and the Coalition for Homeless Intervention and Prevention (CHIP—Marion Co.)
- ❑ Development of a team of Community Support System Navigators (Navigators) across the state who will vet resources, identify barriers, build community partnerships and bridge gaps for youth and young adults (YYA) experiencing housing insecurity.
- ❑ The Homeless Youth Regional Program provides access to resources for children and youth/young adults who are experiencing or on the verge of homelessness.

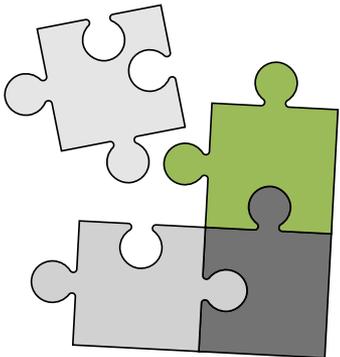
NAVIGATOR TEAM GOALS 2023

Goal #1: Serve as a bridge to connect and empower communities to alleviate youth/young adult (YYA) homelessness and housing insecurity.

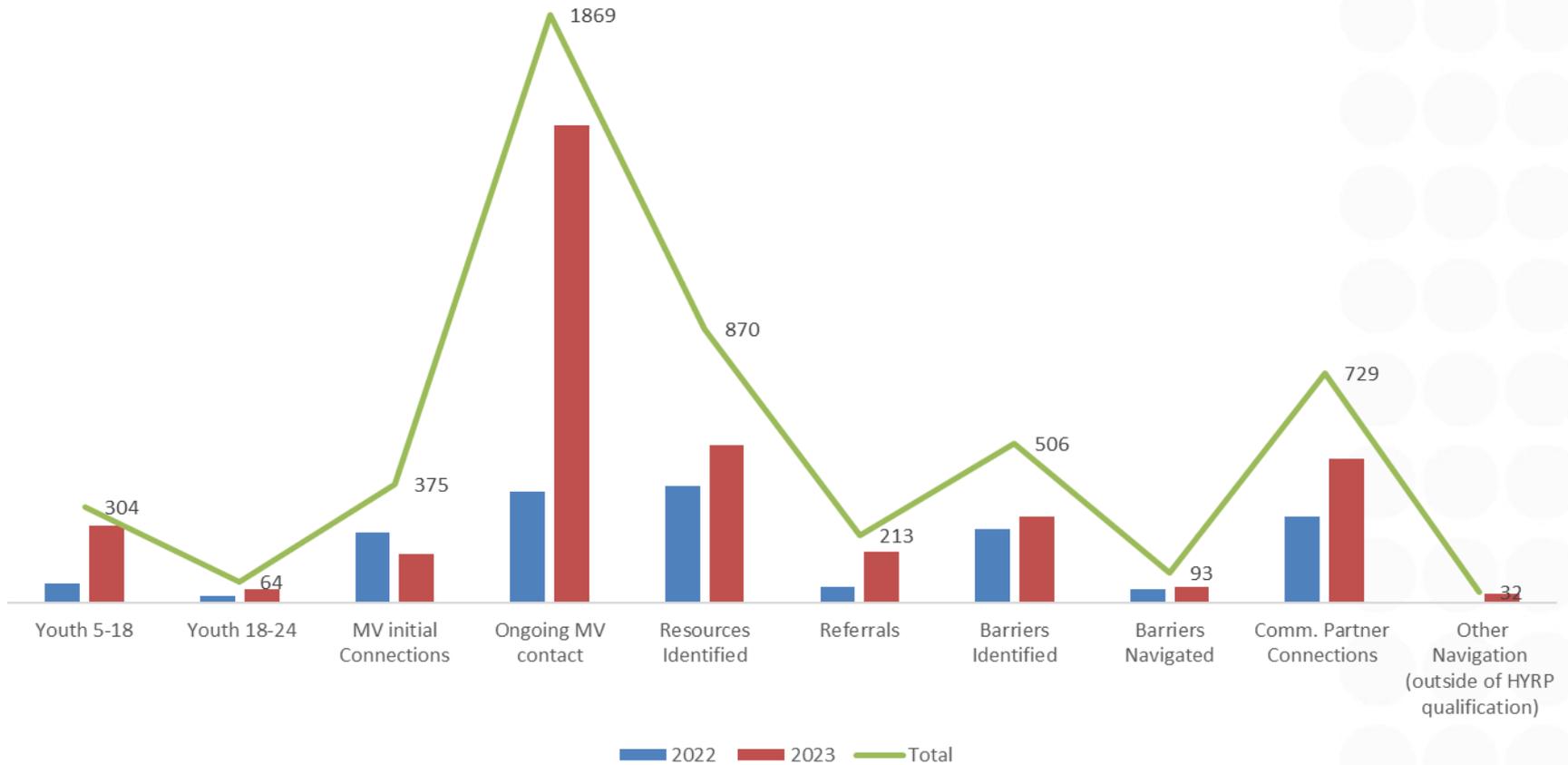
Goal #2: Stay attentive to the role of the Navigator, mindful of continuous improvement and assessment as HYRP evolves.

Goal #3: Develop a unified and consistent regional resource mapping.

Goal #4: Prepare for and submit the 2023 YHDP application.



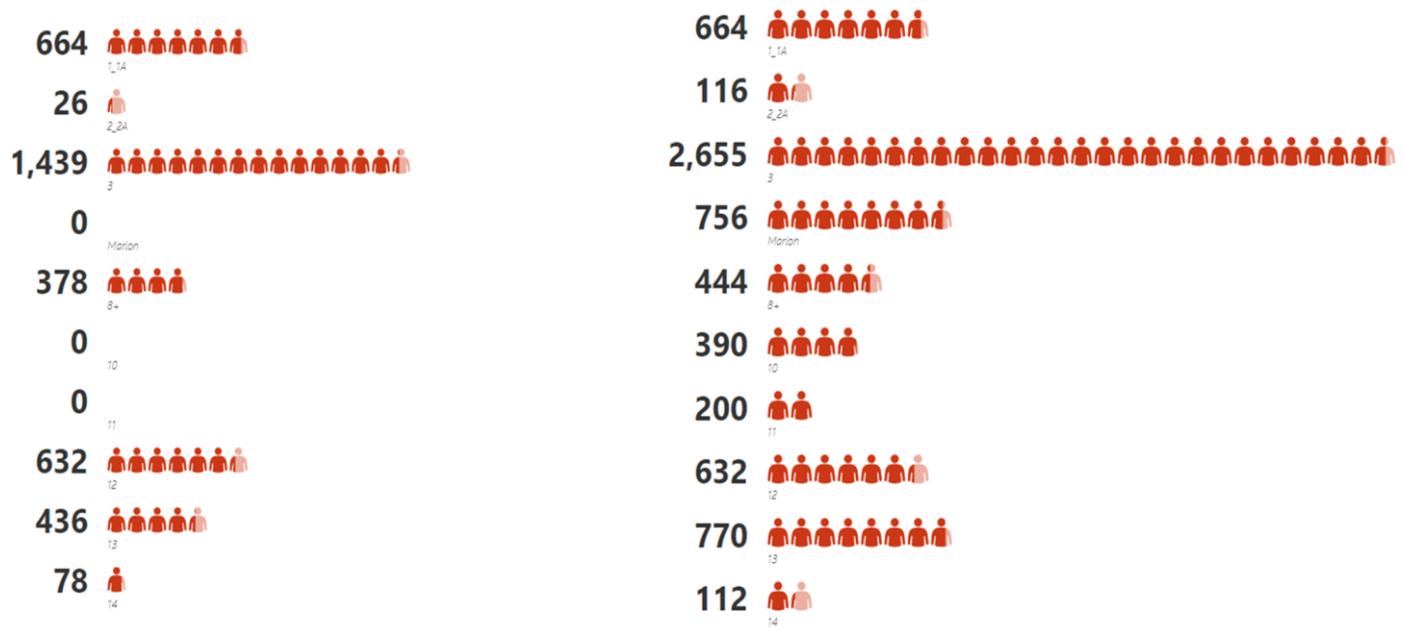
NAVIGATOR METRICS



HOMELESS YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS BY REGION

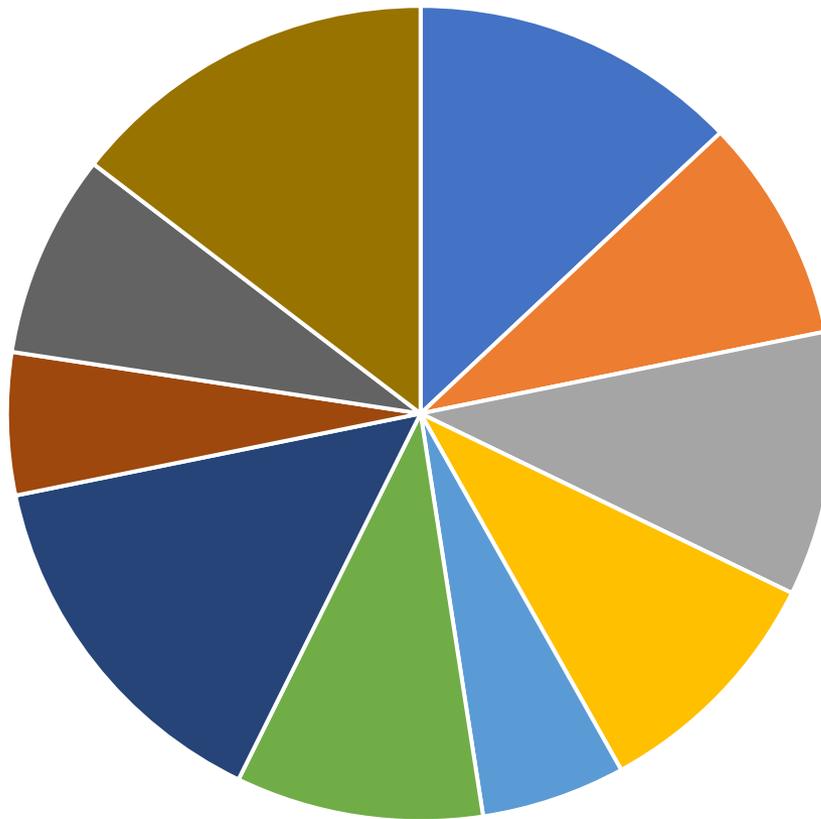
2022

2023



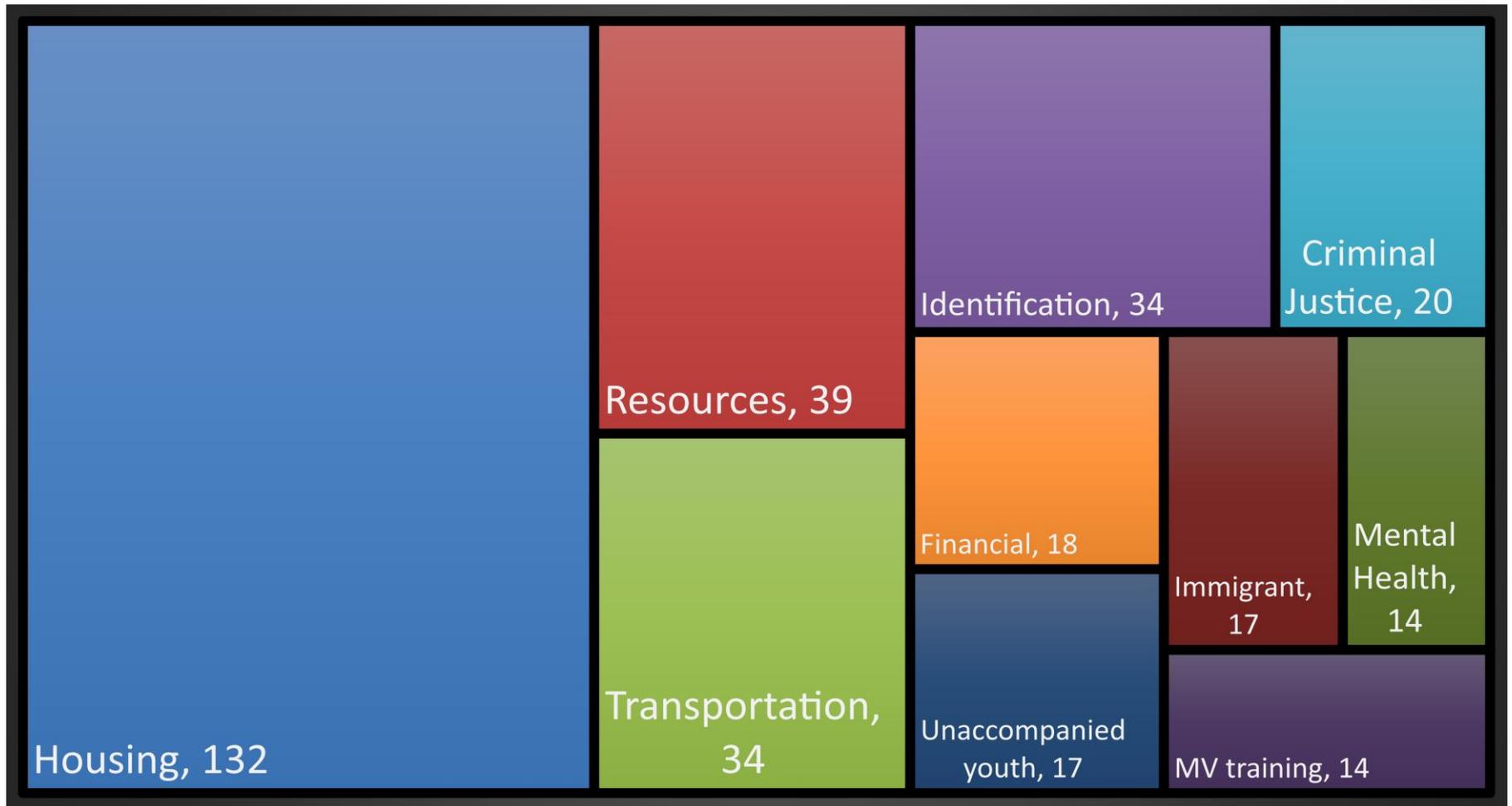
COMMUNITY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

Community Partner Engagement



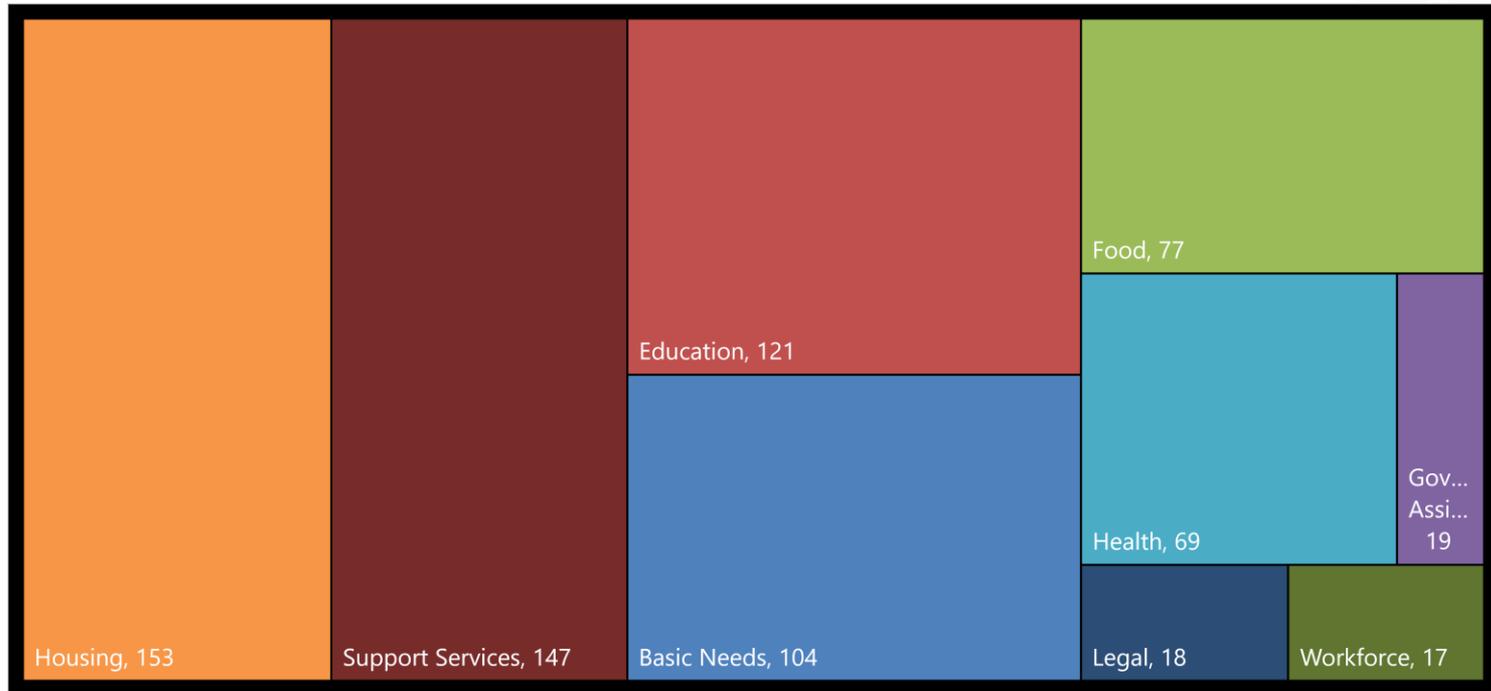
- Community Resource Agency
- Criminal Justice
- Department of Child Services
- Education
- Employment Training
- Homelessness
- Interagency Council
- Older Youth Services
- Religious Organization
- Systems of Care

BARRIERS



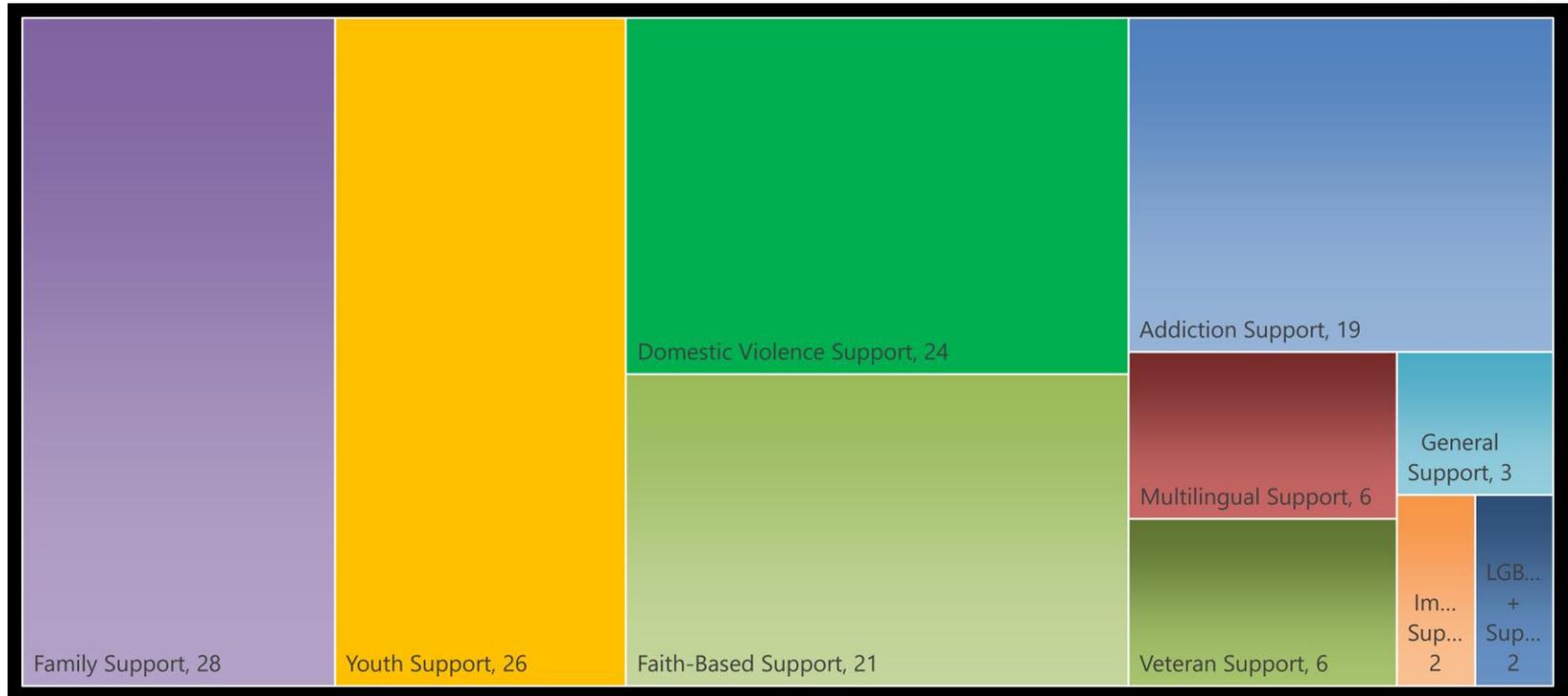
RESOURCES

Our Navigators have worked on tracking the various resources available in our different regions:



SPECIALIZED SUPPORT

As Navigators have learned about how different organizations are supporting people experiencing homelessness, here are some of the highlights:



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, EDUCATION AND ONGOING CONNECTIONS

Education, Meetings, Trainings, and Continuous Improvement – How it All Works Together:

- Daily Navigator Huddle – daily meeting focusing on concerns, questions, feedback sessions, tracking information, discussion topics.
- Weekly Navigator meeting – focusing on team development, including micro trainings, new legislative information, and internal staff development.
- IHCDA organized learning webinars focusing on rural engagement and other programs.
- Monthly McKinney-Vento training Webinars – IDOE information, legislative updates, training sessions, and valuable Q&A sessions.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, EDUCATION AND ONGOING CONNECTIONS

- Monthly IDOE meetings with the Director of Student Pathways, Flora Jones – consisting of program data tracking updates, sharing upcoming program or grant deadlines, program questions and/or concerns, and in-depth Q&A sessions.
- Attending conferences both locally and nationally to expand navigator's knowledge base on:
 - McKinney-Vento regulations
 - Homeless youth and young adult barriers on both a state and national level



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, EDUCATION AND ONGOING CONNECTIONS

• Navigators maintain their connections with their McKinney-Vento liaisons through various means of communications such as:

• Navigator created newsletters.

• Sharing pertinent information about McKinney-Vento requirements, state and local resources and upcoming changes to legislation.

• Proactive training sessions with McKinney-Vento liaisons, school support staff and students.

• Proactive training sessions with regional resources and community partners.

• Sharing information and knowledge gained from micro-training sessions, webinars, and conferences.

THE NAVIGATOR JOURNEY TO ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITIES

McKinney-Vento Liaisons

-Navigators have been building relationships with McKinney-Vento liaisons. These relationships have been essential in supporting families struggling with housing insecurity.

Navigators have also been bridging the gaps between MV's and housing/wrap around resources.

-These relationships with MV's have been essential in connecting with additional unique community resources.

-

Navigators have been given the opportunities to share and bridge relationships between providers in the communities.



THE NAVIGATOR JOURNEY TO ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITIES

Local Community Resources:

-Navigators have engaged with agencies at the local level such as Housing Authorities, Community Action Agencies and Trustee Offices.

These connections have helped navigators learn more about the specific needs of that community.

The connections with the resources providers in the communities has helped build/gather information needed for the IHEDA Systems Map.

Regional Council Meetings/Community Partners:

-Navigators have been able to present information about HYRP/IHCDA to different agencies and community partners (SOC, DMHA, FSSA, IDOH, DCS, Local Coalitions, etc..).

Navigators have used these meetings to share and receive information while networking and looking for opportunities to collaborate in efforts to address housing needs.

BARRIERS

-Over 400 Barriers have been identified in our weekly metrics

Some Barriers that Navigators have Identified:

•1. Lack of Housing –

- In each of the regions there is lack of affordable housing for families and young adults
- Lack of Shelters – specifically youth shelters
- Landlords not wanting to accept the Housing Choice Voucher

•2. Background History

- Evictions
- Criminal Records
- Bankruptcy
- Income guidelines – Income having to be 3x's the rent

BARRIERS

•3. Funds for Housing

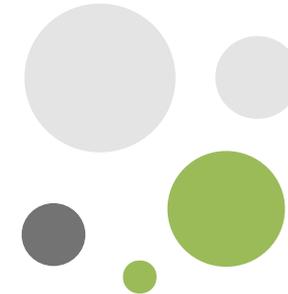
- Application Fees
- Security Deposit
- First and last months rent
- Utility deposits and assistance

•4. Transportation

- Lack of public transportation
- Funds for Car payments
- Funds for gas
- Car repairs
- Distance from housing to employment

•5. McKinney-Vento Collaborations

- Identifying youth and families in the schools experiencing housing instability
- Students and Families not knowing their rights
- Identifying resources in the community to share with their families
- Brainstorming ways to assist the family



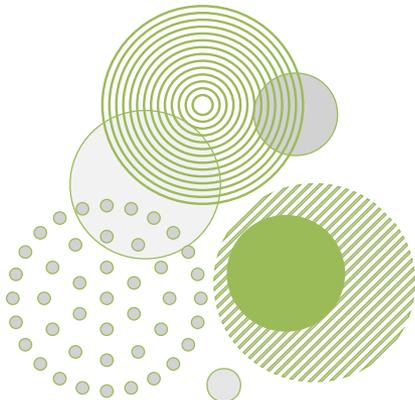
REFERRALS BEYOND YOUTH

Since the program began, navigators have gotten referrals for more than just youth.

-Because we were getting so many referrals outside of the 5-24 age range, navigators decided to begin tracking those in October 2022.

-Up until this week, we have gotten 31 referrals for individuals who do not fit in the 5–24-year age range.

-This shows that there are people across the state of all ages who are facing housing insecurity and need help finding resources.



MOVING FORWARD

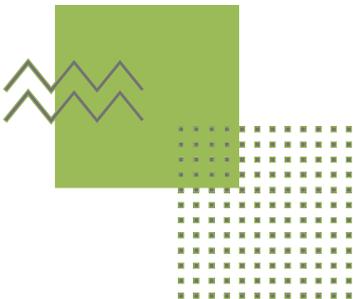
-Summer Programs

Each region is structuring their summer community engagement strategies to identify youth and young adults who are experiencing housing insecurities when they do not have access to McKinney-Vento Liaisons.

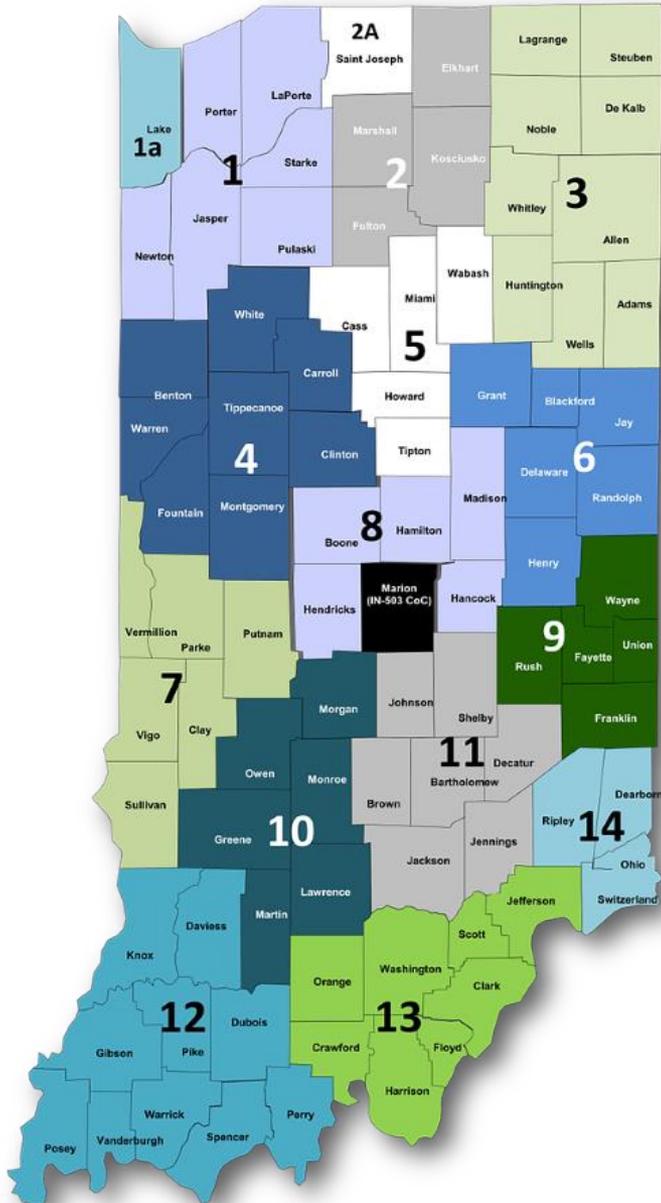
-Funding

The BOS COC is currently applying for the YHDP (youth homelessness demonstration program) in stabilizing and continuing the work that the navigator team is doing.

As we mentioned earlier, many of you may know of resources that you can share with us. If so please let us know!



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THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

